

THE ANTICS OF A CYCLONE.

The *Christian Advocate* of St. Louis, relates some very remarkable performances of the recent cyclone in that city. Everybody has read about these terrific engines of the atmosphere, which have left death, ruin and devastation in their path. Here are some of the peculiar antics performed by these destructive elements:

"One of the granite blocks torn out of Eads Bridge measured five feet in length by almost three in breadth and eighteen inches in thickness. In a freight yard on the levee a block of granite weighing sixteen thousand eight hundred pounds was lifted off a freight car and thrown four feet from the track, two other similar blocks remaining untouched. On Russell Avenue, not far from Compton, one of the marble steps that were in front of the main door of the residence was picked up and driven into the ground to the depth of two feet. The step is not chipped or in any way injured. There are two iron posts in front of the Merchant's Exchange building. One of them was wrenched off by the storm. Sixty feet away is a wooden post of the same size and height as the iron pillar, and it was in no way damaged. In a house on Arkansas Avenue a glass stopper in a decanter was broken off at the top of the bottle, but the vessel itself was not broken. A young man named Murphy, of South Twenty-third Street, says that he had two rings on his left hand. He lost them, with a good deal of the skin of two fingers, while trying to keep his hold on a telegraph pole. The pole was overturned and Murphy narrowly escaped being crushed under it. The outer wall of the splendid red mansion on Compton Avenue is torn away, the roof is gone, and there are other evidences of the ravages of the storm without the building. Yet the light pictures on the walls are hanging in place and lamps on tables and stands are not disturbed as to position, neither are they in any way damaged. On one of them the delicate lace shade is not even disarranged. A newspaper man picked up a dead robin in the center of Lafayette Park. On one side of the bird all the feathers were intact. On the other side there was no sign that there had ever been a feather on the white skin. Even the other part of the leg was entirely denuded. Black mud was found on the walls of many houses after the storm. In one residence on Arkansas Avenue the ceiling is decorated with black patches. There is no such mud in the neighborhood. There was a new spring bonnet on one of the spikes of Lafayette Park iron fence. The bird on it was stripped of its feathers. The irony of fate

was never more forcibly illustrated than in the case of a dwelling house located on South Broadway, the entire front of which was swept away, leaving the interior with furniture exposed to the elements. The furniture and beddings were piled in a confused mass upon each floor, while upon the rear wall of the second story bedroom was the legend, Good Luck."

THE YOUNG PEOPLE.

In a book entitled, "The Making of Manhood," W. J. Dawson has the following to say of the Young Men in the Church:

"The young are especially intolerant of shams; they have the keenest eye to detect the discrepancy between belief and practice. They ask, above all, for sacred reality. The men who move them are not the rhetoricians—tho in youth the appetite for oratory is unlimited—but the men of character, of vehement sincerity, of moral worth. Youth will not tolerate mere pulpit platitudes. It utterly refuses to respect the clergyman simply because he is a clergyman. The democratic spirit which has passed over the nation has taught the most inexperienced of us to discern keenly the caliber and worth of manhood wherever it is found. We are not imposed upon in our day by titles and words. We discuss the actions of royalty with as much freedom as we should animadvert upon the shortcomings of our brethren. It is not to be expected that we should be any less outspoken in our criticism of the church. There are churches which never would admit Jesus Christ to their membership. There are Christians who are not a whit better than the scribes and Pharisees whom Christ denounced. There are forms of worship which are popular for the same reason, and no higher reason, that theaters and concerts are popular. There are congregations and preachers who, after a lifetime of talk about Christianity, have not even the glimmering of a conception of what Christianity really means, and in the spirit of their thought are more pagan than the pagan governor who condemned Christ to the cross. Therefore, youth has learned to discriminate sharply between Christ and the church. It can adore Christ, yet at the same time be hostile to the church—that is, the pagan church—which parodies his name. It demands truth, reality, sincerity, and will be content with nothing else."

If any purer forms of Christian life are to appear in the twentieth century, it is from these ardent idealists of the nineteenth century we must expect them. If Luther had not been enraged at the cor-

ruption of Romanism, there would have been no Reformation; and if Wesley could have been contented with the sleek formalism of the Church of England, we should have had no Methodism. This torturing fire which burns in youth is a divine flame by which the world is to be purified. It behooves the church to give no offense to those who are not far from the kingdom of God. If the church wants youth, it must have reality; it must be free from formalism, servility, cowardice, compromise and half-heartedness. Religion must be of a thoroughly manly, earnest practical, and straightforward type. Wherever there is a church of this order, and a minister who understands these aspirations of youth, there is no difficulty in getting young men."

TO-DAY—Wednesday, July 1, we leave for Meyersdale, Pa., where we expect to spend a few weeks with the people whom we formerly served as pastor. The *we* in this case means the whole family. Up to July 20, all *personal* matter should be addressed to A. D. Gnagey, Meyersdale, Pa. Matter for the paper, together with all matter relating to the business of the office, should be addressed, same as before, Brethren Book and Tract Committee, Ashland, O.

A LOCAL newspaper man is responsible for the lines:

"How dear to our hearts is
Cash on subscription,
When the generous subscriber
Presents it to view;
But the man who don't pay—
We refrain from description,
For fear, gentle reader,
That man might be you."

WHAT is needed to-day in preaching is to simplify and apply the doctrines of Christianity that any man or woman can understand them and practice them.

REDUCED RATES TO WASHINGTON.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor will hold their Annual Meeting in Washington, D. C., July 7 to 13.

For this occasion the B. & O. R. R. Co. will sell tickets, from all points on its lines, west of the Ohio River to Washington, at one single fare for the round trip, July 4 to 7, inclusive; valid for return passage until July 15, inclusive, with the privilege of an additional extension until July 31, by depositing tickets with Joint Agent at Washington.

Tickets will also be on sale at stations of all connecting lines.

Delegates should not lose sight of the fact that all B. & O. trains run via Washington.